

**DELL**  
Western  
Adventure

NOV. 1959  
JUNE - AUG

Still 10¢

# BONANZA

Ben Cartwright and his sons get caught in a feud  
between greedy  
squatters and  
vengeful Indians!





# BONANZA

## THE PONDEROSA RANCH



BEN CARTWRIGHT owns a thousand square miles of range and forest, yet never cuts a tree without planting another. . . . And his greatest pride is his sons Hoss, Adam, and Little Joe.



Then the peace of PONDEROSA is violated by leading squatters and Indians — and the Cartwrights are caught in the middle of forest fires and flying bullets.

## THE GOLD DOWSER



Visiting the wild mining camp of "Virginia City," Adam Cartwright catches a sneak-thief loaded with little buckskin sacks of gold dust, not knowing that—



His brothers Hoss and Little Joe are battling to save a gold dowsing professor from being lynched by an angry mob who believe him to be the gold thief.

# BONANZA

## THE PONDEROSA RANCH

**SOME-TIMED BUT TRAM-  
PANT, BEN CARTWRIGHT**  
AND HIS SONS, **LITTLE JOE,**  
**ADAM** AND **GRANT "HOSS"**  
END ANOTHER BATTLE BY  
THEIR CONSTANT WAR TO  
GUARD THEIR WEST TIMBER  
KINGDOM OF  
**THE PONDEROSA**  
...ON THE NEVADA SIDE OF  
THE HIGH SIERRAS.

WELL, PA, WE'VE  
WHIPPED ANOTHER  
BROUGH FIRE!

YES, ADAM!  
WE WERE LUCKY  
TO GET HERE  
IN TIME!

THAT BIG, OLD  
PINE WASN'T SO  
LUCKY-- SPLIT TO  
THE HEART BY  
A LIGHTNING  
BOLT!



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LATER...



THERE SHE IS, THE  
**PONDEROSA**—A THOUSAND  
SQUARE MILES OF THE GRANDDEST  
TREES IN ALL THE WORLD—THE  
FINEST PASTURES! AND I  
LOVE HER, NEXT TO MY  
THREE SONGS!



SHRIMP PA! I  
SMELL **SMOKE**--  
FROM OVER  
THERE!

**SMOKE?**  
NEAR THE CALIFORNIA  
TRAIL? THE STORM  
DIDN'T STRIKE  
THERE!



COME ON, BOYS!  
THERE'S NOT MUCH  
**SMOKE**--YET!

MINUTES LATER....



**SQUATTERS!** FROM  
CALIFORNIA! WORSE THAN  
**LIGHTNING**, PA!

YEAH? WHO  
ARE YOU?







LATER, AT THE PONDOROSA...





LATER, A MILE FROM THE BEALERS' CAMP.





*BEFORE THE SURVIVING PAUTE CAN LOOSE A SECOND ARROW, HE IS HIT IN THE SHOULDER*



NO EYES ON THE DODGING INDIAN, CARSE  
SEALER TIPS.



AT THE PONDEROSA RANCH, A ROOSTER HAD  
ANOTHER DRAW...

















JUST IN TIME, THE BROTHERS BRACE THEMSELVES.



BEN'S RIFLE SPEAKS—IN TIME!





# BONANZA THE GOLD DOWSER



BROTHER HOSS, DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE ENTERING THE CLAIMS SHACK?

I RECKON MOST OF VIRGINIA CITY SEES HER, LITTLE JOE--A REAL, LIVE, LOVELY GIRL!



HEY LITTLE JOE! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

...TO MAKE HER ACQUAINTANCE--PRONTO--BEFORE SOME YOUNG MINER GETS THE COURAGE TO!



I AM PROFESSOR ARTEMUS FLEW! MIGHT I SEE A MAP SHOWING ALL THE CLAIMS THAT ARE REGISTERED TO DATE? I DON'T WISH TO TRESPASS!

THAT'S SMART, PROFESSOR! NO SENSE GETTING SHOT FOR A CLAIM JUMPER!



PARDON ME! BUT IF YOUR FATHER PLANS TO PROSPECT, I'D BE GLAD TO SERVE AS A GUIDE! I'M LITTLE JOE CARTWRIGHT!

OH? AND WHAT FEE DO YOU CHARGE FOR THAT KINDNESS, M.R. CARTWRIGHT?



PLEASE DON'T MISUNDERSTAND ME, MISS FLEW! MY FAMILY OWNS A THOUSAND SQUARE MILES OF LAND NEAR HERE! WE'VE NO INTEREST IN MINING! BUT IF I CAN BE OF HELP TO A NEW COMER--

THAT'S THE TRUTH, MR. CARTWRIGHT, YOU MIGHT SPEAK TO MY FATHER ABOUT IT!



















FOR A WHILE, DIRT FLIES AGAIN... SOME HOLES ARE dug DEEPER, OTHERS BEGIN WITH FORCE ENERGY!



...BUT AFTER A WHILE...



I QUIT! BUT THERE'S NOT AN OUNCE OF GOLD IN THE WHOLE FLAT!

THAT GOLD DIGGER'S AN OLD FRAUD!

COME ON, BOSS! THEY'RE QUITTING ALL AROUND-- AND AHEAD!



WE TOOK OUR PAY--FOR NOTHING!

HE'S A FAKER!

TAR AND FEATHER HIM!

HOLD ON, THERE, MEN! NOBODY TOUCHES PROFESSOR FLYNN!



LISTEN, NEIGHBORS! HE *DID* FIND GOLD--SO HE'S NOT A FAKER! CAN YOU *PROVE* THAT THE *MOTHER LOSE* ISN'T DEEPER DOWN--MAYBE FIFTY FEET?

WE WANT OUR MONEY BACK!



MY FRIENDS, LISTEN! I WANT *MORE* OF YOUR PAY! IT IS WAITING FOR YOU BACK AT MY WAGON!

IT HAD *BETTER BE!* COME ON, BOYS!

WAGAH! BRING THE PROFESSOR ALONG!

BACK AT THE WAGON THE HORSE ROAR  
DRIVES EVERYTHING ELSE FROM DANSEY'S MINDS.



AND "DREAMY PETE" THE CAMP'S "HELLO BOY"  
SEES HER LEAVE THE WAGON UNGUARDED.



MOMENTS LATER TWO OF THE CARTWRIGHTS  
RIDE INTO TOWN!







LIKE SHIPS FLOWING THROUGH A HEAVY SEA  
THE CARTWRIGHTS SPILT THE CROWD



AND FORCE THE WOULD-BE LUNCHES BACK

THAT GOLD DOWSER STOLE OUR  
POKES OF "DUST," CARTWRIGHT! YOU'VE  
GOT NO CALL--



I'VE GOT YOUR GOLD DUST! WE CAUGHT  
SNEAKY PETE RUNNING AWAY WITH IT,  
AND ROPED HIM! THESE PEOPLE IN THE  
WAGON HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT!  
NOW--THOSE WHO OWN  
THESE SACKS, COME  
AND CLAIM THEM!



COME AND GET YOUR GOLD,  
AMOS BRASS AND DAVE  
COTTON, AND FRED  
HARRIS! ALL OF YOU!  
AND WHEN YOU TAKE IT,  
YOU'D BETTER APOLOGIZE  
TO PROFESSOR FLEW  
AND HIS DAUGHTER!









A PLEDGE



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# FAMOUS WESTERN RANCHES

## the XIT RANCH

IN 1882 THE STATE OF TEXAS TRADED THREE MILLION ACRES ALONG THE NEW MEXICO BORDER TO A SYNDICATE OF CHICAGO BUSINESS MEN--IN RETURN FOR A CONTRACT TO BUILD FOR TEXAS A FINE STATE CAPITOL. THIS HUGE AREA BECAME KNOWN AS THE **XIT RANCH**.

TRAIL DRIVER, AL BUCKER, IS CREDITED WITH INVENTING THE **XIT** BRAND, WHEN HE DELIVERED CATTLE TO BUYER CAMPBELL.

"YOU WANT A BRAND FOR YOUR NEW RANCH, COLONEL? ONE THAT'S GOOD LOOKING--EASY TO BURN ON--AND HARD TO CHANGE? HOW ABOUT **XIT**?"

"I LIKE IT, BUCKER."

**XIT**

"**XIT**? THERE SHE IS! JUST PLANT YOUR BRANDING IRON FIVE TIMES ON A CRITTER'S HIDE--!"

"PRETTY GOOD, AB!"

PERHAPS THE MOST FAMOUS OF ALL TEXAS BRANDS, THE **XIT** SOON WAS BURNED ON THE MANY THOUSANDS OF CATTLE PURCHASED.



FOR YEARS THE **XIT** TRADED BEEF HERDS NORTH TO ARIZONA TO BE FATTENED FOR MARKET ON THE PLUMP, NORTHERLY GRASS.



BUT FLOODS AND BARBED WIRE FENCES SPELLED THE END OF MOST HUGE RANCHES. THE **XIT** WAS FINALLY BROKEN UP LIKE THE OTHERS.

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